



VELAMMAL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, MADURAI
(Autonomous)

Internal Quality Assurance Cell

Minutes of IQAC Meeting (2022-2023) held on 23.11.2022 at 2:00 PM in Seminar Hall 1

The following IQAC Members were present.

1.	Dr. P. Alli	Principal	Chairperson
2.	Dr. N. Suresh Kumar	Senior Principal	Management Representative
3.	Dr. R. Perumalraja	Dean (P&D)	Coordinator of IQAC
4.	Dr.S.Ponmalar	Associate Professor/CSE	Additional Coordinator
5.	Dr.M.Ramakrishnan	Chairperson, Professor & Head. IT, MK University	External Academic Expert
6.	Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu	M.D. S.A.Knitwear (Pvt) Ltd, President MAHIA Industrial Estate	Member from Industry and Local Society
7.	Dr. S. Vasuki	Dean (Student Affairs)	Audit Member
8.	Dr. L. Andal	Dean (III)	Audit Member
9.	Dr. G. Manikandan	Dean (R&D)	Audit Member
10.	Dr. S. Gopalakrishnan	Librarian	Member
11.	Dr. S. Karthikeyan	COE	Member
12.	Mrs. J.P. Annie SweetlinJebarani	HOD (CIVIL)	Member
13.	Dr. R. Deepalakshmi	HOD(CSE)	Member
14.	Dr. K. Kavitha	HOD (ECE)	Member
15.	Dr. R. Narmathabanu	HOD (EEE)	Member
16.	Dr. R. Kavitha	HOD (IT)	Member
17.	Dr. V. Anbumalar	HOD(MECH)	Member
18.	Dr. S. Rajkumar	HOD (Chemistry)	Member
19.	Dr. S. Gomathy	HOD (English)	Member
20.	Dr. A. P. Pushpalatha	HOD (Maths)	Member
21.	Dr. D. Ravindran	HOD (Physies)	Member
22.	Mr. M. Aageshwaran	Final Year Civil	Student Member

23.	Mr. B. Kannan	Final Year EEE	Student Member
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➤ Agenda for the IQAC meeting

- ✓ Review of the previous MoM and the follow up actions
- ✓ NIRF ranking
- ✓ ARIIA ranking
- ✓ AICTE KAPILA and YUKTI schemes
- ✓ Admission in core branches
- ✓ Core company placements: EEE, Civil & Mechanical Engineering
- ✓ Effectiveness of MoUs
- ✓ Industry institute interaction
- ✓ Students' internships
- ✓ AQAR submission
- ✓ New branches
- ✓ Minor degree
- ✓ Variation in intake
- ✓ Infrastructure development
- ✓ Faculty recruitment/Discussion on Human Resources

Dr. N. Suresh Kumar, Senior Principal, welcomed Dr.M.Ramakrishnan, external academic expert, Mr. A.K.B. NawasBabu, Member from industry and local representative and all internal IQAC members. He told the internal IQAC members to introduce themselves.

IQAC members introduced themselves.

Dr. R. Perumalraja, Dean(P&D) and IQAC Coordinator, welcomed the gathering and started the session with a brief note on the growth of the Institute since 2007. He highlighted the attainment of the autonomous status, development of infrastructure, continuous enhancement of academic performance, consistent placement and achievements of faculty and students.

Agenda No 1: Review of Previous Meeting Minutes and Follow up

In the previous IQAC meeting, the following points were discussed for improvement of the college and the actions taken (*follow up*) were given in italics:

1. Student Support and Progression

- In the previous IQAC meeting, Ms. S. Sivadharshini IV ECE suggested the point that conduct of interdisciplinary program like hackathon.
 - ✓ *Hackathon was conducted by the IT department under IIC activities.*
 - ✓ *This year, CSE department is going to conduct the Hackathon event.*
 - Mr.M.Sabari Vignesh IV EEE requested seed money for best student project.
 - ✓ *Seed money was given by the management for the projects selected in 3- Idiots contest.*
2. Governance, Leadership and Management
- Principal explained the efforts taken by the institute to achieve autonomous status.
 - ✓ *Autonomous status was received and we are actively implementing from academics.*
3. Institutional Values and Best Practices
- Dr.G.Manikandan suggested that VCET should aim at solving socially relevant problems.
 - ✓ *Using idea factory portal, social relevant ideas are posted and solved by our students.*
 - Dr. P.Alli suggested that promotion of such activities should be done through social media.
 - ✓ *Now VCET is connected through Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter for disseminating the IIC activities.*

Agenda 2: NIRF ranking

Dr. R. Perumalraja, briefed about the current status of VCET in NIRF ranking. He compared the marks obtained by VCET with other institutions who got NIRF ranking like TCE, MEPCO, SSN, NEC for all NIRF parameters. Based on the comparison, it was identified that the VCET was lacking in quality publication in SCI/Scopus publication, Citation and Placement index, as it is calculated with total admitted students and not with interested students. He looks for suggestion from IQAC members regarding this.

Suggestions on Improvement in NIRF ranking:

- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnan suggested the following points:
 - ✓ Publish papers only in SCI/Scopus indexed journals .
 - ✓ Upload the appointment order of the placed students in website.
 - ✓ Admission of NRI/other state students.
 - ✓ Proper documentation on scholarship provided to the students by the management.
 - ✓ Brainstorming/root cause analysis with faculty member to identify the areas of improvements possible in NIRF parameters.

- ✓ Inform the alumni about NIRF ranking and get mails from alumni about the role of the institute in their career growth.
- ✓ Dr. R. Perumalraja, mentioned that some of the students are not showing interest for placement due to various reasons, which reduces the placement index.
- ✓ In response to the above, Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu insisted on making the students visit international trade fairs and interact with the industry people, which will motivate the students to work in such an environment.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested giving different rope colour for the faculty who published more SCI/Scopus indexed journals which will motivate the other faculty. Also, he suggested to honour the faculty for their achievements in social media.
- ✓ Dr. N. Suresh Kumar, Senior Principal, requested all the HoDs to present about their departments strengths and weaknesses in areas pertaining to NIRF ranking and ways to increase student strength in core companies.
- ✓ Mrs. J.P. Annie SweetlinJebarani, HoD/Civil, briefed about the department activities and achievements. She mentioned about the introduction of Minor Degree in computer science which will attract the students to take Civil Engineering branch and get a chance to place in IT sector.
- ✓ Dr. R. Deepalakshmi, HoD/CSE, briefed about the department activities and achievements of faculty and students. She told that the CSE department has 100% in admission as well as graduation and >95 % of the registered students got placed too.
- ✓ Dr. R. Narmathabanu, HoD/EEE, briefed about the department activities and achievements of faculty and students. Entrepreneur Development Cell has organised more programs related to entrepreneurship and start-ups, which motivated 10 young minds to start their own company.
- ✓ Dr. K. Kavitha, HoD/ECE, briefed about the department activities and achievements of faculty and students. She said that IT department too has 100% in admission as well as graduation. The average salary of outgoing student is 6.5 LPA. She mentioned that the department is performing well in paper publication and their citation index is 396.
- ✓ Dr. V. Anbumalar, HoD/Mech., briefed about the department activities and achievements of faculty and students. He said that the admission is 75% and 100% are getting graduated.
- ✓ Dr. Kamalesh, ASP/IT, briefed about the department activities and achievements of faculty and students. He told that the admission is 100% and 100% are getting graduated. He also mentioned about how IT department is involving in societal projects.

- ✓ Dr. G. Manikandan, Dean(R&D) enquired about the need for S&H departments to have publications and also mentioned about the lack of facilities pointed out by Phy./Chem. faculties for the conduct of experiment.
- ✓ Dr. N. Suresh Kumar mentioned about a faculty V.Rajendran (other Institute) who has taken initiative to collaborate with people in IGCAR and done his study and published many papers.
- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnan mentioned about some institutes that support such collaborative works. Madurai Kamaraj University is willing to support in this matter. Kalasalingam University too gives its support on polymer technology related work and a few more areas.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. NawasBabu cited that many opportunities are available in the field of publishing. There is a need for IT people with good language skill and knowledge in AI for translating literatures from one language to another. Google translator can do this task but there is a lack of service in meaningful translation. (His friend who is working on that project(ILASA) is in need of talented people)
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu also suggested for the following outreach activities:
 - ✓ getting mail IDs from our network and get peer review of the department. Let us award the department with maximum review.
- ✓ Senior Principal once again insisted on improving the lacking areas in NIRF ranking and work towards it.

Agenda 3: ARIIA ranking

Dr. R. Perumalraja briefed about the current status of VCET in ARIIA ranking. He compared different ARIIA metrics of VCET with other institutions that have got "Excellent" in ARIIA ranking, like, Sri Krishna, Sairam, SSN, CIET, etc. In this regard, the following initiatives are taken by the government regarding various aspects:

- Govt. of India taken initiatives for the parameters 3 to 6 via **YUKTI**
- Govt. of India taken initiatives for the parameter 7 via **KAPILA**

Initiatives taken by the VCET now are:

- ✓ More Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) specific programs to be conducted by the department. Target is given to each department.
- ✓ Each faculty should attend at-least one IIC specific programs conducted by the other institutions or the Government.
- ✓ Each faculty should mentor one innovative student project per year.

He asked suggestions from IQAC members to make our institute to be listed in Excellent Performer. Also, he requested suggestions for how to collect problem statements from industry and convince them for collaborative work. Suggestions on Improvement in ARIIA ranking:

- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnan suggested the following points:
 - Invite companies to the college (like a business meet) and organise some fair kind of event. This will create a good rapport with industries and institute.
 - Build an alumni network who is running their own companies.
 - Contact local companies like HCL, APRITAA, etc., for internship. Last year, they gave nearly 25 offers for MK university students. (Contact: Mr. Thirumurugan)
- ✓ Dr.L. Andal, Dean(III) requested input from experts for getting MoU, internship, placement and consultancy work from industry.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested that
 - Build a network with companies through interaction with them during the participation in all event conducted through chamber of commerce, CII, etc.
 - Build a strong alumni network using social network like, "MyAlumni Network" App. The students should get enrolled in alumni network before the placement.
 - To get consultancy work, in touch with industries and disseminate Energy Auditing, Z certificate, etc.
- ✓ Dr. P. Alli, Principal, insisted that the faculty should equip themselves for the change.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu said that as an advisory committee member Mr. R.Sivaraja of venture Capital Fund has interacted with many people across India to promote local people start-ups.
 - Recently 20 projects sanctioned through this initiative
 - ARAMBAM & ADUKALAM events to ping the students projects for start ups.

Agenda 4: AICETE KAPILILA SCHEME

Dr. R. Perumalraja, told the current status of VCET in IPR. He mentioned that taking initiative to form a KAPILA committee, organizing FDP/Orientation to staff may not be sufficient enough to kindle their interests. Suggestions are expected from experts to excel in IP literacy and to get more patents. The following suggestions were given:

- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnan suggested that
 - ✓ Get the maximum support from Government IPR office, Guindy, Chennai, as they are extending their support to educational institutions.

- ✓ Invite IPR attorney officer to the college.
- ✓ Extended activities on IPR like Patent Day, Start Up day, Project day etc.
- ✓ Adopt village and organise activities based on their requirements.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu mentioned about
 - ✓ Kalam's Digit All Sangamam is an ambitious umbrella programme creating awareness and digital knowledge by educating, enabling digital transformation for entrepreneurs and their enterprises into a digitally empowered and upskilled organization. Students and faculty are encouraged to attend these programs.
 - ✓ Students are encouraged to teach the villagers about online payment, YouTube and how to use smartphone for their growth.
 - ✓ Teach people in nearby village to do digital transactions and make a difference in villagers' life.

Agenda 5 and 6: Admission and Placement in Core Branches

Dr. R. Perumalrajatold that the intake of Mechanical Engineering and EEE department was reduced from 120 to 60 since 2020-21 because the admitted students in MECH. and EEE during 2019-20 were 40 and 63 respectively. He expected a healthy discussion and 360° inputs from experts and all the members including students. The suggestions given by the experts were:

- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnansuggested for
 - ✓ Image Building – Invite more schools and organise events.
 - ✓ Invite core companies for placement.
 - ✓ Invite alumni from core branches who are well settled.
 - ✓ Change the mindset about getting low salary package at Core Company as they are paid better enough after a few years of experience.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu mentioned that:
 - ✓ Department specific career orientation should be given to first year students and then we have to do the profiling based on students' interest. For each career option, invite alumni in respective branches who settled at the maximum level to give talk on their career and how they come to that level etc. This will provide an idea for the students to opt for a particular career based on their interest. Choice from the students shall be monitored every year and this will help us in identifying the training needs accordingly.
 - ✓ Lots of job opportunities are available for core engineering students but students are not equipping themselves (for example he mentioned a company "IoT Access Control and System" where they need more technicians to service CCTV camera, Biometric systems etc.). Electrical consultancy to flood lighting of stadiums (Kerala)

Agenda 7: Effectiveness of MoUs

Dr. R. Perumalraja discussed about the current status of MoUs signed in various departments and the activities done through it. He requested suggestions from experts and everyone for (1) attracting core companies to increase core company placements and (2) improving our average salary in Core Company's placement. Suggestions given were:

- ✓ Dr.M.Ramakrishnandiscussed the following:
 - MoU shall be established with other Institutes/University to use their research lab facility (KalasalingamUniversity is accepting such MoUs).
 - MoU to use the research labatCECRI.
 - MoUs to strengthen industry intern for faculty.
 - MoUs to get consultancy projects from industry.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu told that each MoU has a unique outcome. So the evaluation/effectiveness of MoU shall be measured individually.

Agenda 8: Industry Institute Interaction

Dr. R. Perumalraja discussed about the activities of Industry Institute Interaction and requested the members to give suggestions on strengthening it.Suggestions given by the members are:

- ✓ Dr P. Alli told that the industry supported courses have been introduced in the autonomous curriculum and industry partners will handle them.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. NawasBabu mentioned thata nodalperson is required for III and he can introduce other persons to known industry partners.
- ✓ Dr. L. Andal said that she will coordinate in III activities.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested to do entry level profiling of the students and only the interested students shall be involved in industry projects.

Agenda 9: NAAC AQAR Submission

Dr. R. Perumalraja discussed about steps taken towards submission of AQAR for the year 2021-2022. Suggestions are:

Dr.M.Ramakrishnan suggested to have the following list of facilities/events to get A++ grade and insisted on to submit action taken during next meeting:

- Smart classroom facilities is a must to get A++ (MKU has 82 smart classrooms)
- Green initiative

- Solid waste management
- Environment sustainability
- Girl student empowerment
- Welfare measures for the faculty/staff, faculty study leave
- Financial freedom given to the HoDs and the Principal by the management
- No. of BoS conducted during the year
- Syllabus on sustainability and environment
- Continuous internal assessments
- No. of days taking to solve grievance of the student/faculty
- Publication in SCI/Scopus
- 5 year Plan, 10 year strategic plan for quality assurance
- IT policy
- HR Policy
- Steps towards improvement in teaching and learning
- Separate chamber for IQAC
- Uniqueness of Velammal
- Lab – infrastructure added in each year
- Wi-Fi and purchase of computers
- Research policy

Agenda 10: New branches

Dr. R. Perumalraja told the planning of new courses on Artificial Intelligence and Data Science is underway to cater to the needs of market trends and MBA to support the vision statement of VCET

- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested to have MBA with specialization in Education Management and Hospital Management which is the strength of VET with many educational institutes/hospitals
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu mentioned about need for hospital management software for small hospitals (sir needs such software for his friend's hospital)

Agenda 11: Major and Minor Degrees

Dr. R. Perumalraja told that the minor degree course offered (EEE, Civil and Mech.) which will help the students to place in IT companies. Expert members accepted the initiatives.

Agenda 12: Variation in Intake

- ✓ Dr. P. Alli suggested on increasing the intake in ECE department and initiating a new course on CSBS.
- ✓ Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested to start a certificate course on Drone operators as Madurai is going to be the Drone city in future.

Agenda 13: Infrastructure Development

- Dr. R. Perumalraja told that the initiatives taken for providing lift facility to the Vivekananda Block. He also mentioned the 140 new computers are upgraded in the lab.
- Dr.M.Ramakrishnan, suggested to have a long-term plan and progress in the periodic IQAC meeting.

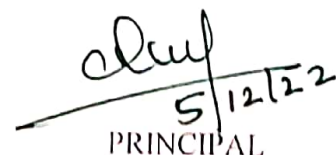
Agenda 14: Faculty Recruitment

- VCET planned to recruit additional faculty in each department for the Student Faculty Ratio 1:15 ratio as expected by NIRF.

Any other Matter:

- Dean Academics discussed about the means of improving the visibility of the college.
- Dr.M.Ramakrishnan, mentioned that the cut-off mark for engineering admission should be maintained above 185 as in 2011. To improve the visibility of the college, more advertisements should be given in newspapers on the activities held.
- Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu suggested activating the Institute Facebook, Insta pages and posting interesting/creative reel on technology/event/any other interesting topic by each department.
- Mr. A.K.B. Nawas Babu said that he can arrange for a workshop on using social media in effective manner for wide visibility of the college


IQAC CO-ORDINATOR


5/12/22
PRINCIPAL